

1 **Amendment to the Claims**

2 **In the Claims:**

3 Please amend Claims 1 and 8-17 as follows:

4 1. (Currently Amended) A method for creating a timed reminder linked to a document,
5 comprising the steps of:

6 opening a document in an application program;

7 indicating that the document is to be accessed at a later date;

8 in response to indicating that the document is to be accessed at a later date, from
9 within one of an application suite comprising the application program and a user interface, creating a
10 reminder having a date field, a time field, and a document field;

11 setting a date in the date field for accessing the document;

12 setting a time in the time field for accessing the document;

13 setting the name of the document in the document field; and

14 storing the reminder in a shared database that supports timed reminders linked to
15 documents associated with a plurality of application programs.

16 2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the document is a word[-]processor
17 compatible file.

18 3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the document is a spreadsheet.

19 4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the document is a graphical file.

20 5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the document is a computer-executable file
21 other than an electronic mail message.

22 6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the application program is chosen from the
23 group consisting of a word processor, a spreadsheet application, and a graphics application.

24 7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the document is of a type not associated with
25 the application program.

26 8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

27 at the date and time specified in the date field and time field, retrieving the reminder
28 from the database; and

29 displaying the reminder along with the name of the associated document.

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1 9. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium storing instructions which, when
2 executed, perform the ~~method~~ steps of claim 8.

3 10. (Currently Amended) A method for displaying a document associated with a scheduled
4 reminder, comprising the steps of:

5 automatically polling a database from a first application;
6 determining whether a reminder is present in the database with a time field matching
7 the current time and a date field matching the current date;
8 in response to determining that a reminder is present in the database with a time field
9 matching the current time and a date field matching the current date, retrieving the reminder;
10 displaying the reminder on a display screen;
11 retrieving a document associated with the reminder; and
12 displaying the associated document in a second application.

13 11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9 10, further comprising the steps of:
14 determining whether an application capable of polling the database is active;
15 in the event that an application capable of polling the database is not active, activating
16 a background program dedicated to polling the database; and
17 setting the background program as the active application.

18 12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, further comprising the steps of:
19 determining that the associated document is incompatible with the active application;
20 in response to determining that the associated document is incompatible with the
21 second application, activating a third application capable of displaying the associated document; and
22 displaying the associated document in the third application.

23 13. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium storing instructions which, when
24 executed, perform the ~~method~~ steps of claim 8 12.

25 14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, further comprising the steps of:
26 determining that the reminder has been designated as auto-updating;
27 in response to determining that the reminder has been designated as auto-updating,
28 initiating a series of changes to the document;
29 storing the document;
30 incrementing the time field and date field of the reminder by a set amount; and

1 storing the incremented reminder in the database.

2 15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, further comprising the steps of:

3 determining that the associated document is a hyperlink to a web page; and

4 displaying the web page in a web browser.

5 16. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for providing a timed reminder
6 and associated file to a user, comprising the steps of:

7 creating a timed reminder having a time entry and date entry;

8 adding an associated file name to the timed reminder;

9 storing the timed reminder in a shared database;

10 automatically determining whether a checking application is active;

11 in response to determining that a checking application is active, periodically
12 comparing the current time and date with the time entry and the date entry;

13 in the event that the current time and date match the time entry and date entry,
14 retrieving the timed reminder; and

15 displaying the timed reminder and the associated file name on a display screen;

16 otherwise, automatically activating a background checking program;

17 periodically comparing the current time and date with the time entry and the date
18 entry;

19 in the event that the current time and date match the time entry and date entry,
20 retrieving the timed reminder; and

21 displaying the timed reminder and the associated file name on a display screen.

22 17. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium storing instructions which, when
23 executed, performs the ~~method~~ steps of claim 16.

24 18. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the shared database supports timed
25 reminders linked to documents associated with a plurality of application programs and may be
26 accessed by more than one application.